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Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 083874

15
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AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
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AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME

S E C R E T STATE 083874

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 083874 SENT EC BRUSSELS DATED APRIL 16.

QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 083874

FOLLOWING REPEATS STATE 083874 ACTION DUBLIN INFO SAIGON
APRIL 11TH

QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 083874

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEC, EGEN, VS, EAID

SUBJECT: VIETNAM
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REF: DUBLIN 646

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1. REFTEL INDICATES THAT EC FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL DIS- -
CUSS VIETNAM QUESTIONS DURING THEIR INFORMAL MEETING NEAR
DUBLIN THIS WEEKEND. ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY SHOULD TRANS-
MIT FOLLOWING MESSAGE ORALLY FROM THE SECRETARY TO FOREIGN
MINISTER FITZGERALD, IF POSSIBLE BEFORE MEETING OPENS.

2. RECENT EVENTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA HAVE EVOKED DEEP CON-
CERN ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ATLANTIC. WE SHARE AND APPRE-
CIATE THE SOLICITUDE EXPRESSED BY OUR EUROPEAN FRIENDS IN
BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF INDOCHINA. GIVEN THE URGENT NEED
TO RESTORE PEACE AND STABILITY THERE, I WANT TO RELAY TO
YOU AS PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
SOME GENERAL THOUGHTS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE EC FOREIGN
MINISTERS.

(A) THE SITUATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA IS TENSE AND SUBJECT
TO SUDDEN CHANGE. BECAUSE OF THE GRAVITY AND FLUIDITY
OF EVENTS IN THAT AREA, I WOULD URGE THAT THE UNITED
STATES AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY REMAIN IN CLOSE CONTACT
WITH REGARD TO DEVELOPMENTS THERE.

(B) TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, I WOULD HOPE THAT WE COULD
MOVE TOGETHER IN BOTH OUR DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES AND OUR
OFFERS OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.

(C) WITH REGARD TO ACTIVITY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SPHERE,
THE US WOULD VALUE THE SUPPORT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY
COLLECTIVELY AND/OR ITS MEMBER STATES INDIVIDUALLY IN
SEEKING A CESSATION TO AGGRESSION IN VIETNAM. WE URGE YOU
TO USE YOUR INFLUENCE TO ASK THE GOVERNMENT OF NORTH
VIETNAM TO HALT ALL MILITARY OPERATIONS AND HONOR THE TERMS
OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT. QUIET ON THE BATTLEFIELD OFFERS
THE BEST PROSPECT FOR PROGRESS AT THE PEACE TABLE.

(D) RELATED TO THIS PEACE-SEEKING EFFORT IS OUR CONTIN-
UING OPPOSITION TO ANY STEPS WHICH WOULD ENHANCE THE
STATUS OF THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT (PRG)
AT THIS TIME. WE ARE FIRMLY AGAINST ANY DIPLOMATIC
RECOGNITION OF THE PRG. WE HOPE THAT OUR EUROPEAN FRIENDS
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SHARE OUR BELIEF THAT SUCH RECOGNITION IS MOST LIKELY TO
COMPOUND CURRENT INSTABILITY IN VIETNAM. WE HOPE THAT THE
EC OR ITS MEMBER STATES WILL THUS REFRAIN FROM TAKING SUCH
ACTION.

(E) DIPLOMATIC AND MILITARY CONSIDERATIONS NOTWITH-
STANDING, THERE REMAINS OUR COMMON CONCERN FOR THE WELL-
BEING OF THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE THEMSELVES. PRESIDENT FORD

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HAS UNDERSCORED THE US COMMITMENT TO ECONOMIC AND HUMANI-
TARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOUTH VIETNAM FOR THOSE HARMED OR IM-
PERILED BY THE WAR. WE WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO
PROVIDE FOOD, MEDICINE, TECHNICAL AID, AND FREEDOM OF
MOVEMENT FOR NEEDY VIETNAMESE TO WHOM WE HAVE ACCESS.
BECAUSE THE SITUATION IS COMPLICATED, WE HOPE ALL THE MORE
TO HAVE YOUR SUPPORT AND ADVICE IN MAKING NECESSARY AID
AVAILABLE. THE CRISIS REQUIRES PROMPT AND POSITIVE ACTION.

(F) TO THAT END, WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING AND CLOSE
CONCERTATION WITH YOU. WE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO CONSULT
PROMPTLY ON MEANS TO COMPLEMENT BILATERAL EFFORTS THROUGH
A BROADER INTERNATIONAL ENDEAVOR. WE ARE RESOLVED THAT
INNOCENT PEOPLE SHOULD NOT SUFFER FOR LACK OF FORESIGHT,
PROMPT COORDINATION, AND COMPASSION ON OUR PART. KISSINGER
UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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